

Submitter: Kaleigh Roehl

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4074

Kaleigh Roehl, RN

2/9/2026

RE: Testimony in Opposition to HB 4074

To the House Health Care Committee:

My name is Kaleigh Roehl. I'm a registered nurse from Portland, a proud ONA member, and the co-chair of my hospital staffing committee. Before moving to Oregon 4 years ago, I worked as a nurse in the state of Florida for 9 years. Florida is unfortunately a state that does not have any meaningful staffing legislation and patient care suffers because of it. I spent many nights crying on my drive home, crushed by the moral injury of being unable to provide the care my patients deserved. I moved to Oregon to live in a state that had more protections for patients and the workers who care for them. The 2023 passage of House Bill 2697 demonstrated Oregon's commitment to ethical patient care and the critical role nurse-to-patient ratios play in keeping Oregonians safe. It is unfortunate that these laws have to be in place at all however, healthcare executives who are more concerned with their financial bottom lines have proven they cannot be trusted to provide the staff we need without the threat of consequence. As a member of our hospital staffing committee, I have watched administrators refuse to include common sense staffing basics like patient acuity and CNA staffing levels that used to be a routine part of our staffing plans prior to 2023. Any suggestions from millionaire hospital executives that this law is somehow too cumbersome to follow are surely just crocodile tears. This bill is nothing more than another shameful attempt by the corporate hospital lobby to weaken our state's landmark staffing law. I want Oregon to be a place where I can be proud of the care I provide to my community; a state where my colleagues and I can treat patients with the dignity and respect we would want for our own family, and yours. Patients should always be put before profits, and I respectfully ask that you reject House Bill 4074.

Kaleigh Roehl, RN